

Application No. 10826435 (Docket: CNTR.2075)  
37 CFR 1.111 Amendment dated 03/07/2008  
Reply to Office Action of 12/11/2007

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AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the section entitled "ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE" in its entirety and substitute the following section therefor:

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The present invention provides an apparatus and method for performing cryptographic operations on a plurality of input data blocks within a processor. In one embodiment, an apparatus for performing cryptographic operations is provided. The apparatus includes fetch logic and execution logic. The fetch logic is disposed within a microprocessor, and is configured to receive a ~~cryptographic instructions~~ single atomic cryptographic instruction as part of an instruction flow executing on the microprocessor. The cryptographic instructions~~single atomic cryptographic instruction~~ prescribes one of the cryptographic operations, and also prescribes that an intermediate result be generated. The execution logic is disposed within the microprocessor and is operatively coupled to the ~~cryptographic instructions~~ single atomic cryptographic instruction. The execution logic executes the one of the cryptographic operations, and generates the intermediate result.